

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An optical pickup apparatus includes a stem; a
light source provided on the stem; a light detector
provided on the stem for detecting light emitted by the
light source which is reflected by an optical recording
medium; and a light separating device, divided into at
least a first area and a second area, for separating the
light incident on each of the first area and the second
10 area into a plurality of light components and directing
each of the light components in a prescribed direction.
The light detector includes a light receiver, divided into
a first light receiving region and a second light
receiving region, for receiving the light components
15 directed by the first area of the light separating device.
The first light receiving region and the second light
receiving region are located so that a first direction
is substantially perpendicular to a second direction,
where the first direction is a direction of a phantom
20 straight line connecting a light emitting point of the
light source and a focal point on the light detector of
the light transmitted through the light separating device,
and the second direction is a direction of a dividing line
for dividing the light receiver into the first light

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receiving region and the second light receiving region.
A material of the stem and a wavelength of the light from
the light source are selected so that a distance of
movement of the focal point on the light detector in a
5 direction perpendicular to the second direction is within
a prescribed tolerance limit, the movement being caused
by a change in the wavelength of the light emitted by the
light source and expansion or contraction of the stem,
which are both caused by a temperature change of the
10 optical pickup apparatus.

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